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CENTRAL FAX CENTER NO. 9857 P. 3

JAN 16 2007 U.S. Application No: 10/698,010
Attorney Docket No.: 5259-10700US02
Amendment and Response dated January 15, 2007
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1 – 20. (Cancelled)

21. (Currently amended) A collar, comprising:
a body;
arms extending from the body, each arm comprising internal threading,
wherein each arm has an end distal from the body, and wherein the end of each arm
comprises an outer flange configured to couple to a detachable member; and
a slot between the arms, wherein the slot is configured to receive an elongated
member; and
wherein at least one of the flanges comprises an indentation, and wherein the
indentation allow a channel in a detachable member to be aligned with the slot in the
collar.
22. (Original) The collar of claim 21, wherein the detachable member comprises a
sleeve.
23. (Original) The collar of claim 21, wherein the body of the collar is configured
to couple to a bone fastener such that the bone fastener can angulate with respect to the
collar;
24. (Original) The collar of claim 21, wherein the body of the collar is configured
to couple to a ring.
25. (Original) The collar of claim 21, wherein the detachable member is
configured to couple to the flanges above the elongated member.
26. (Original) The collar of claim 21, wherein an effective diameter of the body
exceeds an effective diameter of the arms.

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27. (Canceled)
28. (Currently Amended) The collar of claim 21, wherein at least one of the flanges comprise an indentation, and wherein the indentation is configured to allow the detachable member to be secured in position relative to the collar.
29. (Canceled)
30. (Original) The collar of claim 21, wherein the internal threading in the arms is configured to engage external threading of a closure member, and wherein the closure member is configured to secure the elongated member to the collar.
31. (Original) The collar of claim 21, wherein the collar comprises one or more threaded openings proximate at least one of the flanges, wherein one or more of the threaded openings is configured to engage movable members coupled to the detachable member.
32. - 33. (Canceled)
34. (Original) The collar of claim 21, wherein the flanges are located such that the detachable member can couple to the collar above the elongated member.

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35. (Currently Amended) A system, comprising:
a collar, comprising:
a body configured to couple to a bone fastener such that the body, once coupled, can at least partially rotate relative to the bone fastener;
arms extending from the body, each arm comprising internal threading; and
a slot between the arms, wherein the slot is configured to receive an elongated member;
a sleeve; and
wherein the collar is configured to couple to the sleeve above the elongated member; and
wherein each arm of the collar comprises a flange, wherein the sleeve comprises one or more channels, and wherein the flanges are configured to couple to the sleeve such that the sleeve can be coupled such that at least one of the channels is substantially aligned with the slot of the collar.
36. (Original) The system of claim 35, wherein the body of the collar, once coupled to the bone fastener, can at least partially angulate relative to the bone fastener.
37. (Original) The system of claim 35, wherein the internal threading of the collar is configured to couple to a closure member.
38. (Original): The system of claim 35, wherein each arm of the collar comprises a flange, wherein the flanges are configured to couple to the sleeve such that the sleeve can be coupled in a selected orientation relative to the flange.
39. -- 122. (Canceled)